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# GENERAL'LY SPEAKING

February 2021

Final Dispatch From The Eisenhower Memorial Commission

# **Thanks For The Memories**



It is with mixed emotions that we bring you the final edition of *General'ly Speaking*. With the Memorial dedicated and transferred to the National Park Service for stewardship, the Commission is sunsetting. As

a special "thank you" to our friends and followers, we offer you a look back through the twenty years of hard work it took to bring this Memorial to fruition. For the Commission staff this was a nostalgic journey through our archives and we hope you will enjoy the trip down memory lane as much as we did...

### 1999

<u>Public Law 106-79</u> establishes the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission.



Senator Daniel Inouye, Mr. Rocco Siciliano, and Senator Ted Stevens – three combat-decorated veterans of World War II and passionate admirers of General and President Eisenhower – initiated a national presidential memorial in honor of Dwight D. Eisenhower's legacy.

2000

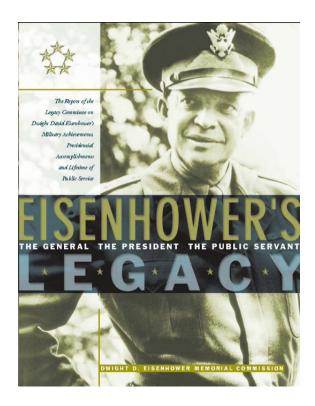
• First official meeting of the bi-partisan Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission:

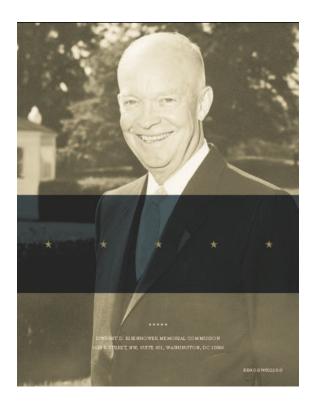
Rocco Siciliano, Chairman
Senator Daniel Inouye, Vice Chairman
Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Pat Roberts
Senator Jack Reed
Representative Jerry Moran
Representative Mac Thornberry
Representative Denis Moore
Representative Leonard Boswell
David Eisenhower
Alfred Geduldig
Susan Banes Harris

2002 - 2003

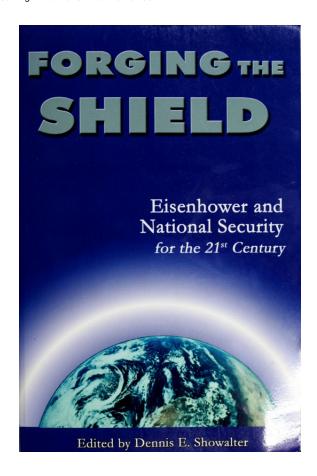
• The <u>Legacy Committee</u> – established to assess and understand the outstanding elements of Eisenhower's legacy – presents their report to the Commission.

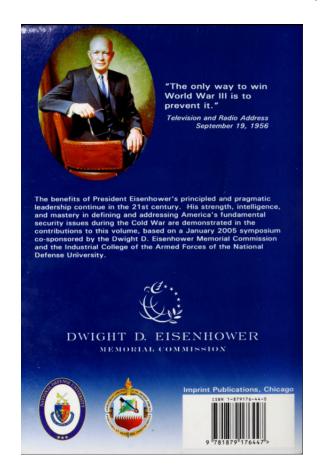
Louis Galambos, Chairman
Michael Beschloss
Michael J. Birkner
Robert R. Bowie
Carlo D'Este
General Andrew Goodpaster
John H. Morrow, Jr.
Kiron K. Skinner
Richard Norton Smith
Daun van Ee





The Commission, in partnership with the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, hosts an
international symposium – Eisenhower and National Security for the 21st Century – at National
Defense University (NDU) in Washington, DC.





 Site Selection: Following a review of 26 potential sites throughout Washington, the Commission, review agencies, Congress, and President approved <u>540 Independence Avenue SW</u> as the future site of the Memorial.



 Designer Selection: Four finalists were selected from 44 proposals solicited via the General Service Administration's <u>Design Excellence Program</u>.

Frank Gehry I Gehry Partners, LLP I Los Angeles, CA

Ron Krueck I Krueck Sexton Partners I Chicago, IL

R. Rogers and J. Marvel I Rogers Marvel Architects I New York, NY

Peter Walker I PWP Landscape Architecture I Berkeley, CA

2009

 Per the recommendations of an independent review board, the Commission approves Frank Gehry as the lead designer for the Memorial.



Commission Meeting to select lead designer, Senate Appropriations Committee Room, U.S. Capitol, March 31, 2009

Standing: Susan Banes Harris (Potomac, MD), Rep. Leonard L. Boswell (D-lowa), Rep. Jerry Moran (R-Kansas), Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas), Sen. Jack Reed (D-Rhode Island), Alfred Geduldig (New York, NY)

Seated: Sen. Robert F. Bennett (R-Utah), Vice-Chairman Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii), Chairman Rocco C. Siciliano (Beverly Hills, CA), Sen. Pat Roberts (R-Kansas), Rep. Dennis Moore (D-Kansas), D. David Eisenhower (Berwyn, PA)



Senator Pat Roberts, Architect Frank Gehry, and Chairman Rocco Siciliano at a Capitol Hill reception hosted by American University's School of International Service, Reserve Officers Club, Washington, DC, July 2009

- Gilbane Building Company contracted as the design and construction management team.
- Gehry Partners, LLP forms a joint venture with AECOM to establish the project's design team.
- The Commission unanimously selects the preferred concept from three proposals presented by Gehry Partners, LLP.



Preferred design concept of the Memorial as approved by the Commission, March 2010

 The award-winning media design firm <u>Local Projects</u>, lead by Principal Jake Barton, is selected to design the E-Memorial – the first fully-integrated digital design experience to complement a presidential memorial.



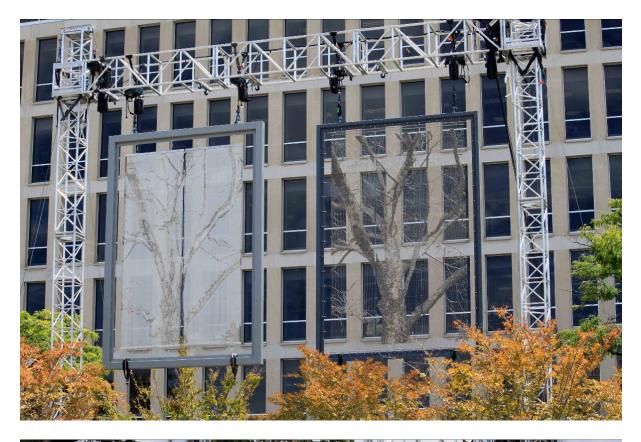
Early concept for the digital experience as presented by Local Projects, 2010

# 2011

• U.S. National Archives hosts: <u>A Conversation with Architect Frank Gehry and Thematic</u>
Artist Robert Wilson on the Creation of the Memorial.



• Initial prototypes of the tapestry are displayed at the Memorial's site.





Photographs of the first prototypes on display in front of the U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC, 2011

• EMC staff receives a tour of the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* from then-commander Captain Paul Spedero, USN.



EMC staff pose for a photo with Captain Spedero in the hangar bay of the USS Eisenhower, Naval Station Norfolk, VA, April 2012

From left: Shannon Honl, Laura Mackiewicz, Annemarie Spadafore, Charlie Range, Captain Spedero, Carl Reddel, Victoria Tigwell, Asia Edwards, Brett Stole

 The Commission's booth debuts at the Kansas State Fair and wins the "Outside Exhibitor-Single Space Booth Grand Champion Award."



Cardboard-cutout lke welcomes kids to the booth to learn about the Memorial, Hutchinson, KS, September 2012

 The E-Memorial Content Committee – a group of five of the world's leading Eisenhower historians, scholars, and education specialists – convenes for the first time to select seven <u>Pivotal Moments</u> to chronicle Eisenhower's life.

> Kim Barbieri Michael Birkner George Colburn Louis Galambos Daun van Ee

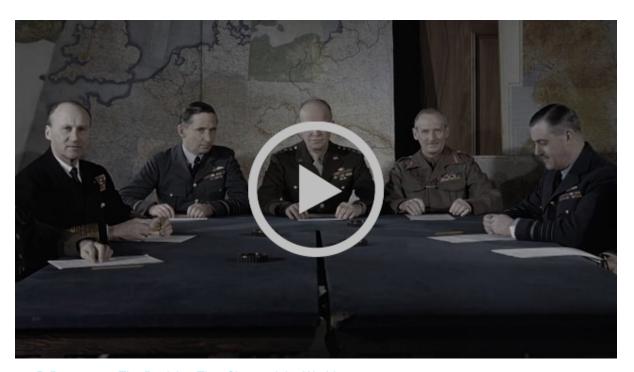
> > 2013

 Eisenhower Memorial Exhibit opens at the <u>Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center</u> in Washington, DC



• The E-Memorial launches beginning with the first of seven Pivotal Moment experiences:





<u>D-Day, 1944 - The Decision That Changed the World</u>
As the Supreme Commander of Allied Forces during World War II, Dwight D. Eisenhower changed the course of history by launching the D-Day invasion of France.

• In conjunction with the 69th anniversary of the eve of D-Day, the Commission hosts a panel of Eisenhower experts for a discussion of the proposed quotations for the Memorial – Eisenhower in His Own Words.

#### **Quotations Committee:**

Louis Galambos Richard Striner Daun van Ee



Commission Executive Director Carl Reddel welcomes attendees to the quotations discussion, The National Press Club, Washington, DC, June 2013

Panelists from left: Louis Galambos, James Thurber (moderator), Stephen Randolph, Michael Birkner

2014

• Second Pivotal Moment experience launches:

NATO: A Coalition United For Peace

featuring an interview with former NATO SACEUR Admiral James Stavridis.



NATO, 1951 - A Coalition United For Peace
As the first Supreme Allied Commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Eisenhower accepted the challenge to preserve peace at home and abroad in the Cold War era.

Opening of the Eisenhower Memorial exhibition at The Pentagon.



Eisenhower Memorial exhibit at the 3A-1/2 Apex, The Pentagon, Arlington, VA, 2014 - 2016

Image courtesy of OSD Historical Exhibits Curator Albert Jones

Review agencies grant preliminary approval for the Memorial's design:





Early iteration of the design as preliminarily approval by the Commission and review agencies, 2014

• Third and fourth Pivotal Moment experiences launch:

#### West Point: A life In Service To His Country

features interviews with then-superintendent of West Point Lt. General Robert Caslen, Jr. and EMC Chairman Senator Pat Roberts.

Little Rock: The Civil Rights Battleground

#### features an interview with President Bill Clinton.



West Point, 1911 - A Life in Service to His Country

At age 20, Eisenhower left his hometown of Abilene, Kansas for the United States Military Academy at West Point, the first step in what was to be a long and distinguished military career.



<u>Little Rock, 1957 - The Civil Rights Battleground</u>

Eisenhower acts to enforce the rule of law by sending Federal troops into Little Rock, Arkansas, where a violent mob has prevented the integration of Central High School.

• Final design approvals granted by the <u>U.S. Commission of Fine Arts</u> and the <u>National Capital Planning Commission</u>.





Final design as approved by the Commission and review agencies, 2015

 Senator Bob Dole is appointed to serve as Finance Chairman of the <u>Campaign for the Eisenhower</u> <u>Memorial</u>.



Senator Dole at an event in honor of the Memorial, Washington, DC, September 2016

From left: EMC Chairman Senator Pat Roberts, Finance Chair Senator Bob Dole, Susan Eisenhower, Franki Roberts, Anne Eisenhower, Governor Dirk Kempthorne

# 2016

• Final Pivotal Moment experiences launch:

Winning the Presidency: Daring All For Our Country

features an interview with David Eisenhower.

Waging Peace: Fighting To End All War

features an interview with former Secretary of State General Colin Powell.

#### Space Race: Launching America's Era Of Space Exploration

features interviews with astronauts Senator John Glenn and Colonel Eileen Collins (USAF, Ret.).



Winning the Presidency, 1952 - Daring All For Our Country

Eisenhower's landslide victory in securing the presidency placed him at the forefront of one of the most challenging eras of US history, guiding the nation and the world through dangerous and unsettling times.



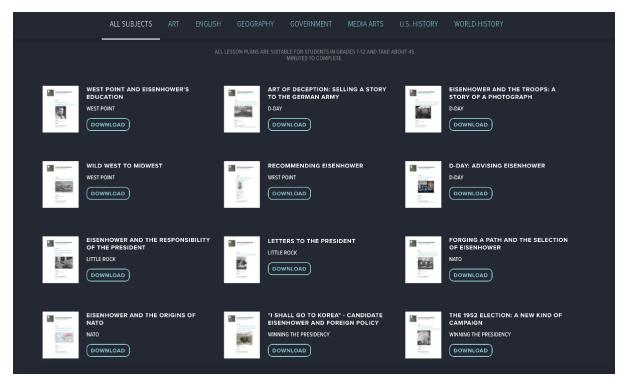
Waging Peace, 1953 - Fighting To End All War

In the first year of his presidency Eisenhower delivered his renowned cry for the end to war: his "A Chance for Peace" speech would be a pledge for a brighter future.



<u>Space Race, 1958 - Launching America's Era of Space Exploration</u>
Only months after the news of the Soviet Union's first satellite launch, Eisenhower put the first US satellite into orbit, setting in motion the unprecedented feats NASA continues to achieve today.

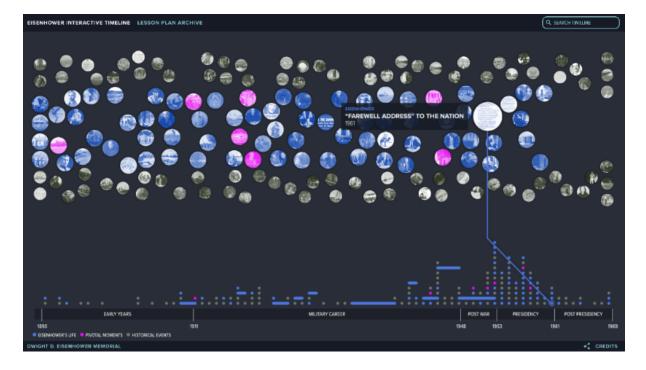
 As part of the effort to bring the Eisenhower legacy to teachers and students in classrooms around the world, the Commission – in partnership with <u>George Mason University's highly respected Roy</u> <u>Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media</u> – launches the <u>Lesson Plan Archive</u> as a complement to the E-Memorial <u>Pivotal Moments</u>.



#### Lesson Plan Archive

Middle and high school curriculum units are based on the seven Pivotal Moments — each curriculum unit features two or three lesson plans. Teachers can download the freely available units and related materials for classroom use.

The <u>Interactive Timeline</u>, designed by Local Projects with milestone content provided by GMU's
Center for History and New Media, launches as part of the E-Memorial experience – a fitting
resource for a tech-savvy generation of students and teachers.



#### Interactive E-Memorial Timeline

An interactive timeline connects viewers with key events in both Eisenhower's life and in world history during his lifetime. His life spanned an era of great change from the closing of the American frontier in 1890 — the year of his birth — to the first landing on the moon in 1969 — the year Eisenhower died.

 Former Secretary of State James A. Baker, III negotiates a new tapestry image with the Eisenhower family — Normandy during peacetime.

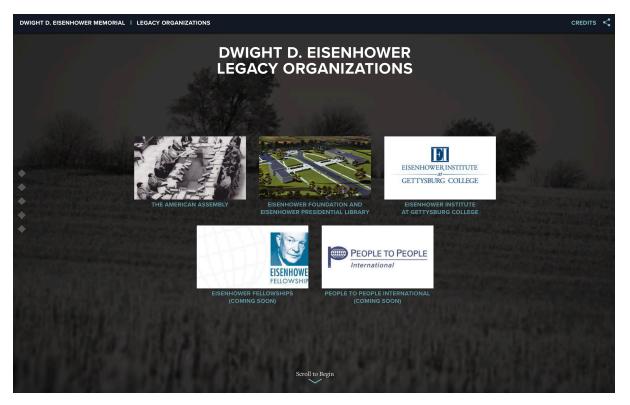






Progression of tapestry artwork from photographic montages of the Kansas Landscape (bottom) and the Normandy coastline (middle) to the final approved hand-drawn depiction of Normandy's Pointe du Hoc in peacetime (top).

• The Eisenhower legacy organizations' stories launch as part of the E-Memorial:



**Legacy Organization Stories** 

Each organization was either directly created or inspired by Eisenhower during his lifetime and is dedicated to perpetuating his legacy — combined, they serve as the "living memorial" to the champion of peace.

# 2017

- The President enacts <u>H.R. 244</u> (P.L. 115-31) providing \$45 million of appropriated funds for construction of the Memorial.
- The Altria Group and EMC, with special guest Bret Baier, host an event in commemoration of the 73rd anniversary of D-Day and celebration of the Eisenhower Memorial.



D-Day event keynote speaker Bret Baier, Altria Group, Washington, DC, June 2017

- The <u>General Services Administration</u> awards the construction contract for the Memorial to <u>Clark</u> <u>Construction</u>.
- The U.S. Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Planning Commission grant revised final design approvals in lead up to the groundbreaking.





Final design of the Memorial as approved by the Commission and review agencies, 2017

November 2: Eisenhower Memorial Groundbreaking Ceremony



The Eisenhower Memorial Commission, the Eisenhower Family, and the design team break ground together on the Eisenhower Memorial, Washington, DC, November 2017

From left: Alfred Geduldig, Rep. Mike Simpson, Rep. Sanford Bishop, Susan Eisenhower, Rep. Mac Thornberry, Rep. Mike Thompson, Frank Gehry, Sen. Pat Roberts, Greta Van Susteren, David Eisenhower, Sen. Joe Manchin, Sen. Gary Peters, Susan Banes Harris, Anne Eisenhower

"We build this memorial today not only to honor a single person, but as a symbol for all generations of the greatness of America and what our values have made possible at home and abroad. Lest anyone forget what can be achieved in the land of the free and the home of the brave, let them come here and understand what Eisenhower, and America, have done. And what they, in turn, will do for themselves and for our nation's future."

- Senator Pat Roberts, *Chairman*Eisenhower Memorial Commission

Memorial dedication announced for the 75th anniversary of V-E Day — May 8, 2020.

2018

- The President enacts <u>H.R. 1625</u> (P.L. 115-141) providing \$45 million of appropriated funds for construction of the Memorial.
- The Commission partners with the <u>Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History</u> to host a summer seminar for educators *Eisenhower and the Art of Presidential Leadership*.



Summer seminar attendees and staff receive a hard-hat tour of the Memorial's construction site, Washington, DC, July 2018

• SHAEF veterans, accompanied by their families, pay a visit to the Commission's office.



Members of the SHAEF/ETOUSA Veterans and Friends Associations, EMC Office, Washington, DC, November 2018

#### • Film premiere:

Architect Frank Gehry on designing the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Memorial



Watch architect Frank Gehry describe his process and design for the Eisenhower Presidential Memorial in this short film by award-winning director Adam Kosberg.

• Commission Chairman, Senator Pat Roberts, visits the Eisenhower Memorial construction site.



Members of the construction team and Commission staff pose with Chairman Senator Roberts in front of the future core of the Memorial, Washington, DC, May 2019

From left: David Schnorf, Hallie Futterman, Tara Early, Sen. Pat Roberts, Victoria Tigwell, Thomas Wong, Carl Reddel, Dan Feil, Xavier Marti

• Senator Roberts joins the celebration in Normandy commemorating the 75th anniversary of D-Day.



EMC Chairman Senator Roberts in Normandy for D-Day 75th

• The city of Pietrasanta, Italy, hosts an unveiling ceremony for the first-completed group of sculptures commemorating Eisenhower.



In keeping with the tradition to showcase artists' works throughout the city, Eisenhower Memorial sculptor <u>Sergey Eylanbekov</u> displays his work honoring General Eisenhower, Pietrasanta, Italy, August 2019

• Film premiere:

Eisenhower Memorial Tapestry Design and Fabrication



Watch artist and architect Tomas Osinski describe the process for the design and fabrication of the Eisenhower Memorial tapestry in this short film by award-winning director Adam Kosberg.

• Construction crew hangs the first tapestry panels.

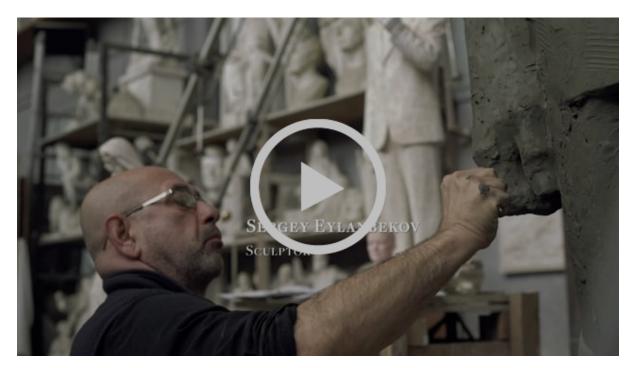






• Film premiere:

Eisenhower Memorial Sculptures



Watch Sculptor Sergey Eylanbekov describe the process for the design and creation of the Eisenhower Memorial sculptures in this short film by award-winning director Adam Kosberg.

 Architectural critic and biographer Paul Goldberger interviews architect Frank Gehry about the Eisenhower Memorial for inclusion in the audio tour.



Architect Frank Gehry, Sound Designer Andy Green, and Architectural Critic Paul Goldberger, DuoTone Audio, New York, NY, November 2019

## 2020

- The originally scheduled dedication of May 8th is postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In partnership with the creative team at <u>Bluecadet</u>, the Commission launches an immersive podcast-style <u>audio tour</u> designed to enrich the Memorial experience.

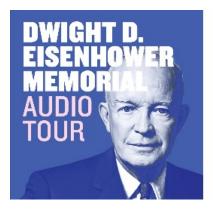
The tour is available via:

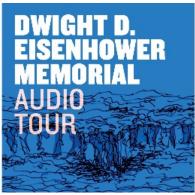




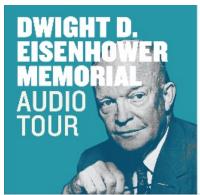


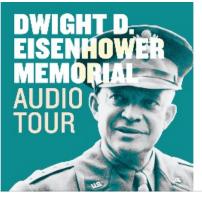
**Spotify Podcasts** 

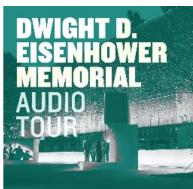












• September 17, 2020: Eisenhower Memorial Dedication Ceremony



Members of the Eisenhower Memorial Commission and Eisenhower family cut the ribbon at the dedication ceremony, Washington, DC, September 2020

From left: Al Geduldig, Catherine Ann Stevens, Sen. Joe Manchin, Sen. Pat Roberts, Secretary David Bernhardt, Rep. Mike Thompson, David Eisenhower, Sen. Dan Sullivan, Rep. Mike Simpson, Rep. Mac Thornberry

 Memorial turns over to the National Park Service becoming the seventh national presidential memorial in the suite of sites that make up the National Mall and Memorial Parks.



Aerial photograph of the Memorial at night, photograph courtesy of Alan Karchmer, 2019

## 2021

- Eisenhower Memorial receives <u>LEED Gold certification</u>.
- The Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission sunsets.



The Commission's staff celebrate the success of the project and the fruits of their labor, Washington, DC

From left: Ed Pérez, Pamela Pearson, Shannon Honl, Carl Reddel, Victoria Tigwell, Joyce Jacobson, Trace Livengood

## **In Memoriam**

The Commission had assistance from many people to bring the Memorial to fruition. Unfortunately some of our Commissioners and committee members passed away before they were able to see the completion of the project. We honor them here for their support and contribution.

## **Advisory Committee Members**

President George H. W. Bush First Lady Nancy Reagan David Abshire Harold Burson Frank Carlucci

William Coleman

Larry Field

Paul Laxalt

Fred Malek

Ralph Mecham

## **Former Commissioners**

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Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS)

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Rocco C. Siciliano, Chairman Emeritus

**Bruce Cole** 

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General Andrew J. Goodpaster

Paul O'Day
Roswell B. Perkins
T. Boone Pickens, Jr.
Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, USAF (Ret.)
John Shlaes
George Shultz
C. Langhorne Washburn
John Whitehead

# Salute to Ike's Supporters

We extend our deepest appreciation to the many patriotic Americans, multi-national corporations, foreign nations, and elementary school students in honoring this great American, Dwight D. Eisenhower. We would especially like to thank our major donors who made contributions at the *Commander in Chief*, *Supreme Commander*, and *Chief of Staff* giving levels.

All donors are prominently recognized on our Virtual Donor Wall.

# **Special Thank Yous**

Before we say farewell, the Commission staff would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to a few special individuals and organizations whose commitment and enthusiasm helped bring about the success of this Memorial:

The entire team at Gehry Partners, but particularly Meaghan Lloyd, Craig Webb, John Bowers, and Kristin Ragins for their extraordinary work on this project.

Senator Roberts for EVERYTHING, but especially for his perseverance and support.

Rocco Siciliano for his steady hand.

Jackie Cottrell and Amber Kirchhoefer with Senator Roberts' staff for patiently taking on the work of the Commission on top of their day jobs.

Frank Fahrenkopf for his sage political advice.

Frank Gehry for never giving up.

Al Jones with OSD Graphics for support with the Pentagon Exhibit.

Attorneys Seth Greenfeld & Duane Smith with GSA Legal for their responsive and thorough counsel.

Digital Archivists Kathy Struss and Mary Burtzloff with the Eisenhower Presidential Library for facilitating

access digital assets in support of making the E-Memorial experience richer.

Janine Bilyeu with BluEdge for creative printing and exhibit solutions.

Professor Michael Birkner for his scholarly leadership with the Gilder Lehrman and Volunteers in the Parks seminars.

Al Quinoines for problem solving the heck out of the most befuddling IT glitches.

Glenn Klaus at NAMA for helping to ensure the E-Memorial provided an accessible digital experience to the widest possible audience.

Adam Kosberg for beautiful films.

Sundar Raman for all the after-hours website rescues.

Julie Grahame with the Karsh Estate for generously allowing us to use photographs from the collection to bring awareness to the Memorial.

Eduard Krakhmalnikov with the Trust for the National Mall for his enthusiasm and willingness to partner on the volunteer docent program.

Jen Snyder, Donna Meredith, MJ Wotton, and Kristin Lovejoy with Local Projects for their project management of the E-Memorial.

Ron Nash with Gilder Lehrman for initiating a summer-seminar partnership.

David Mortimer with The American Assembly for his unfaltering support and friendship.

Meredith Sleichter with the Eisenhower Foundation for facilitating a partnership and the willingness to steward the E-Memorial.

Daun van Ee for relentless review and vetting of resources and scripts.

Kim Barbieri for advising on the development of the teacher resources.

William Snyder with the Eisenhower Presidential Museum for advice on the representation of General Eisenhower's uniform.

John Foley with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Pratt Museum for advice on the representation and loan of the World War II 101st paratrooper uniform.

Jennifer Rosenfeld and Kelly Schrum at the Center for History and New Media for the thoughtful development of lesson plans and teacher resource assets.

Lilly Preston, Madeleine Osborn, and Katie Lannigan at Bluecadet for an immersive audio tour experience worthy of a 21st-century presidential memorial.

Alan Bogan and Stefan Rohal with the U.S. Army Center for Military History for advice on the representation of a 1950s-era senior military advisor uniform.

Hallie Futterman with the General Services Administration for project management.

Carol Moore with Gilbane for the best advice - "just keep on moving!"

Tom Korologos for connecting the dots.

Tony Lynch, Jim McCray, and Rick Nelson for a successful capital campaign.

Tomas Osinksi for his "MacGyver" skills.

Susan Goodell and Sophia Zavada with MWWPR for their early-morning, late-night, and weekend media tours.

Tom Nastick at the National Archives for facilitating public programming about the Memorial.

Annalise Parks and the team at The City Club of Washington, DC.

Staff at the Army and Navy Club of Washington, DC.

Nafiseh Roomina and the team at The University Club of Washington, DC.

The Trust for the National Mall for their partnership in stewarding the memorial in the future.

Brad Figel for the commemorative M&Ms for the groundbreaking and dedication ceremonies.

Titus Obrebiyi for fixing everything in our office.

Howard Day and Donna Dow with the City of Denison, TX, for promoting the Memorial in Ike's birthplace.

Team Linder for their resilience in dealing with Mother Nature and pandemics.

Colette Reddel for reminding us that champagne helps solve all problems.

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In the coming weeks we will share with you links to Memorial and Eisenhower legacy resources generated by the Commission in support of this project. Please stay tuned for this forthcoming supplement to our final edition of *General'ly Speaking*. Thank you all for your generous readership.

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